

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES MOHAN

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate Charles Mohan for all of his hard work with the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation, UMDF.

This year the UMDF celebrates its 10th anniversary and the retirement of founder and Board Chair, Charles Mohan. Mr. Mohan started the foundation after his daughter, Gina, lost her courageous struggle with mitochondrial disease. The UMDF is headquartered in Pittsburgh and has funded more than \$3,000,000 for research to find a cure for this devastating disease.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Charles Mohan for his work with the UMDF. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute such a dedicated individual.

COMMEMORATING EARTH DAY 2006

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, Saturday marked the 36th annual Earth Day, a day set aside for reflection, education, and action on the impact of human beings on our planet. Although it is certainly important to celebrate the rich diversity of nature with our families and communities, my greatest hope for the Earth is that my children's children will not have to observe an Earth Day. Instead, I look forward to a future when concern for the environment is part of each decision our country makes, rather than only a matter we address one day each year on a date set aside to make us consider the impact we are having on our surroundings.

While the front pages of our newspapers routinely carry stories on the degradation of our natural resources, environmental issues have yet to rise to a top priority in Congress. Nonetheless, the decisions we make today will profoundly impact the way we live for years and generations to come. Indeed, our stewardship of the environment is inextricably tied to our economic security and growth.

This is not news to the American people. Over the last 20 years, more Americans have said that environmental protection is a high priority for the Nation. Nearly three in five Americans are active in or sympathetic to the environmental movement, but most believe the government has a negative, or at best negligible, impact on these efforts.

One area in which the Federal Government has failed to lead is global warming. A recent Gallup poll found that nearly two-thirds of Americans worry about the greenhouse effect, up from just over half in 2004. Eighty-three percent believe that global warming will become a problem for the U.S. and 57 percent feel it poses a very serious threat to the world. And, Mr. Speaker, 68 percent of our fellow citizens believe the Federal Government should be doing more to combat it.

The science of climate change has become clear and alarming. NASA recently confirmed that 9 of the last 10 years have been the warmest since modern records began in 1861, with 2005 topping the list. Much of this rise can be explained by a 35 percent increase over preindustrial levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, caused by the burning of fossil fuels, deforestation, and industrial production.

Even if we stopped emitting greenhouse gases today, the current levels of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere will cause the Earth's temperature to reach its highest point since the end of the Ice Age some 9,000 years ago. Average global temperatures could rise by 3 to 10 degrees Fahrenheit by the end of the century. This would melt the polar ice caps, causing sea level to rise twenty or more feet, causing severe worldwide flooding that would put large parts of Florida and California underwater. Warmer weather will also lead to severe weather patterns that will contribute to food shortages, increase the spread and severity of disease, increase the damage and displacement from a range of natural disasters, and jeopardize billions of people around the world.

In 2005, the economic costs of weather-related catastrophes have been estimated at more than \$200 billion. As temperatures rise, so will this economic toll. The extinction of millions of plant and animal species presents another priceless and irreversible toll of global warming.

While some temperature rise is inevitable, most scientists still believe that concerted action can prevent the most apocalyptic consequences of climate change. The global nature of this challenge creates not only an obligation for the U.S., but also an opportunity. By conserving the resources we have and developing new, cleaner sources of energy, we will reduce our dependence on foreign oil, protect our wilderness, and purify our air, water, and soil. Taking the lead in improving energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions will improve our economic security and prosperity today and for generations to come.

New scientific findings highlight the urgency of addressing global warming and related environmental challenges. Fortunately, the innovative and enterprising spirit of the American people puts us in an ideal position to seize this opportunity. Together, we can change the headlines to reflect a more optimistic outlook for our planet while improving our own quality of life. The American people have made it clear that the environment should be on our agenda every day, not just Earth Day, and I hope that Congress will heed this appeal.

TRIBUTE TO BERNARD L. SCHWARTZ

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bernard L. Schwartz, a distinguished American who retired in March 2006 as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Loral Space and Communications, Inc., posts he has held since the company was founded in 1996. He served in the same posts

at the predecessor company, Loral Corporation, since 1972.

Loral Space and Communications designs and manufactures large, geostationary telecommunications satellites, and through its Skynet subsidiary provides a wide range of satellite services. Under Mr. Schwartz's wise leadership, Loral Space and Communications has played a central role in the development of the satellite industry and a central role in satellite services for our nation.

Bernard Schwartz is a legend on Wall Street and in the defense industry. He is highly regarded for his work in the fields of economic growth, industrial policy, technology and national security. He gives generously of his time, his talents and resources to many organizations to further examine these topics. Among his extraordinary contributions are the endowment of academic chairs for the study of economic policy and international affairs at New School University and Johns Hopkins University, as well as establishing a fellowship program in public policy at the New America Foundation. He is a Trustee of New York University Hospitals Center where he established the Neurointerventional Radiology Center, and he funded a distinguished chair in urologic oncology at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. He established chairs at the Brookings Institution and at Tel Aviv University and founded a Communication Institute at Baruch College where he serves as a Trustee. Mr. Schwartz serves on the Board of the New York Historical Society, and as Vice-Chair of the New York Film Society. He is also a Trustee of Third Way and the Democratic Leadership Council.

Mr. Schwartz, a graduate of City College of New York, was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Science by his alma mater. He and his wife live in New York City and have two daughters, three granddaughters and one grandson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Bernard Schwartz for his extraordinary leadership and countless contributions to our nation's economy and its well-being. He has taken his citizenship seriously and given back to the country he loves so much. We salute him for his leadership of Loral Space and Communications, which serves the interests of our country and for his continuing patriotism which makes him a national treasure.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SIDNEY CHAPLIN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Sidney Chaplin a Las Vegas business and civic leader who died this past March.

Sidney Chaplin was a longtime executive vice-president and general manager of Southern Wine and Spirits of Nevada drew great personal satisfaction from helping those less fortunate. He was a true philanthropist who never sought recognition for his good deeds and generosity. During World War II, Mr. Chaplin served in the United States Air Force. After his military service for our country, he started his working career as an insurance

salesman in New York City. After that, he began his first job in the wine and spirits industry; which became his life long career. This career in liquor distribution enabled him to be exceedingly generous to others. Over the years he supported a number of religious and charitable groups. Sidney donated his time and resources to Temple Beth Shalom and eventually became a sponsor of the Shirley and Sidney Chaplin Lecture Series at the Temple. He was also a longtime supporter of the Lou Ruvo Alzheimer's Institute and UNL VINO.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life and memory of Sidney Chaplin. His professional success and philanthropic dedication should serve as an example to us all.

TRIBUTE TO GOEHRING FARM OF
MARION TOWNSHIP

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Goehring Farm of Marion Township as it celebrates its 100th anniversary.

The Goehring family began their family farm 100 years ago on 88 acres of land in Marion Township. The original owner of the farm, John Goehring, was just 27 years old when he started the farm. Brothers, Jim and Ron, now manage over 100 head of cattle and expanded acreage on the farm. With a number of children to follow in the family foot steps, the farm will surely continue to prosper in the years to come.

The family marked the farm's 100th anniversary on Saturday, April 8, 2006 with a dinner at Concord United Methodist Church in North Sewickley Township.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the 100th anniversary of the Goehring farm. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute such a great family business.

BULGARIA'S BASES WELCOME U.S.
MILITARY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, The Washington Times reported this week that "Bulgaria has agreed to open three military bases for permanent use by 2,500 U.S. troops who will be available for combat in the Middle East and other nearby regions."

While this may be the "first time Bulgaria has authorized the stationing of foreign forces on its soil in its 1,325-year history," this is not the first time Bulgaria has demonstrated its willingness to help our country in the Global War on Terrorism. Over 400 Bulgarian troops have bravely served alongside our troops in Iraq. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has been successful in recruiting allies. By welcoming U.S. troops to their bases, Bulgaria

has once again helped our military forces fight terrorists in Iraq and Afghanistan so that we do not have to face them on the streets of America.

As the Co-Chair of the Congressional Bulgaria Caucus, along with Congresswoman ELLEN TAUSCHER, I sincerely appreciate our strong partnership with Bulgaria as a valued member of NATO which hosts today the NATO foreign ministers in Sofia including Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

In conclusion, God bless our troops and we will never forget September 11th.

COMMEMORATING THE 91ST ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN
GENOCIDE

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I'm honored to join my colleagues in commemorating the 91st anniversary of the start of the Armenian Genocide.

Genocide is a very powerful word, and should be reserved for only the most horrific examples of mass killing motivated by a desire to destroy an entire people.

Without a doubt, this term is appropriate to describe the unimaginable atrocities suffered by the Armenian people from 1915 to 1918.

During this period, more than one million Armenians died from starvation or disease on long marches, or were simply massacred by the Ottoman Turks.

Some still deny these events, or try to justify them as an extension of war.

But the debate on this historical issue has been settled. The distinguished International Association of Genocide Scholars, among others, has concluded that it is undeniable.

Others, including some who accept the historical facts, say Congress should not pass a resolution recognizing the Armenian Genocide because it will irreparably damage our relationship with Turkey.

This is a phony argument.

The European Parliament, the Council of Europe, and many European countries, including France, Germany and Italy have formally recognized the Armenian Genocide.

Yet this has not dissuaded Turkey from actively seeking to join the European Union.

At some point, every nation must come to terms with the wrongs committed by previous generations.

For Germany, the Holocaust. For South Africa, Apartheid. And for our country, slavery and the treatment of Native Americans.

In the same spirit, Turkey should allow—and indeed, encourage—an open and honest discussion of the Armenian Genocide.

Adolf Hitler once remarked, "Who remembers the Armenians?" The answer is, we do.

And we will continue to remember the victims of the Armenian Genocide, and other genocides, because, in the immortal words of Spanish philosopher George Santayana, "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO NANCY AND
JOHN KELL "IKE" HOUSSELS

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nancy and John Kell "Ike" Houssels and their exemplary record of professional achievement and community service.

Nancy Houssels has always been at the forefront of cultural and social philanthropy. She served, at one time or another, on several boards including: Nevada Ballet Theatre, UNLV Foundation, the National Conference of Christians & Jews, and Law Vegas Performing Arts. Mrs. Houssels was also the co-founder of the Nevada Dance Theatre in 1972 and has served the company as Chair and Co-Chair for 35 years.

John Kell "Ike" Houssel is widely recognized as one of the respected and honored principles in the gaming industry. After graduating from West Point and, subsequently, Stanford Law School, Mr. Houssel embarked on a career in casino resort hotel ownership and management in the 1950s when he became the managing partner of the Showboat, followed by his legendary leadership as president of the Hotel Tropicana and later of the Union Plaza Hotel.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor both Nancy and John Kell "Ike" Houssels for their exemplary professional careers and their commitment to enriching their community. I wish them the best in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE 103RD UNIT OF
THE SLOVAK GYMNASIAC UNION
SOKOL

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the 103rd unit of the Slovak Gymnastic Union Sokol, USA, located in Farrell, Pennsylvania on its 100th anniversary.

The Sokol USA was created as a fraternal benefit society dedicated to providing insurance and physical fitness programs to men and women. The roots of Sokol USA can be traced back to Czechoslovakia in 1862. The program was started in New York in 1898. Eight years later, 22 Slovak immigrants founded the 103rd unit in Farrell, Pennsylvania. They take great pride in the fact that all of their programs are still conducted by volunteer members, and that they continue to offer weekly gymnastic classes for all age groups.

On May 20, 2006 Sokol members from the Farrell area, western Pennsylvania and surrounding states, as well as from their sister club in the Slovak Republic are expected to attend the Anniversary Banquet of the Sokol USA which will be held at the Radisson Hotel in West Middlesex, PA. They will be celebrating the 103rd units 100 years of service to the community.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating The Slovak Gymnastic Union Sokol